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Abstract of the Disclosure:

When a contact surface 6 of a fingerprint input section 1 is pushed down by a fingertip and the projected portion 6b faces the recessed portion 10a, the projected portion 6b slides into the recessed portion 10a so that the contact surface 6 is put in a locked state. At this time, a switch 9 is turned on and sends a signal to a fingerprint detecting portion 11. Responsive to the signal, the detecting portion 11 scans the fingertip on the contact surface 6 to be converted into a sequence of electric signal and to be stored into a memory. The fingerprint detecting portion 11 compares a fingerprint with the fingerprint data signal stored in the memory 5 to identify a fingerprint. With this structure, the pressure imposed by the fingertip onto the fingerprint input section 1 is kept constant during detection of the fingerprint.

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